

## Andrew Jackson to Francis Preston Blair, February 24, 1842, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

class=MsoNormal>TO FRANCIS P. BLAIR.

Hermitage, February 24, 1842.

My dear sir, I have received your letter of the 16th instant, and I rejoice to learn that your present situation is so prosperous. May it not only continue but increase for all time to come, and extend to every branch of your family, and therefore it is, that I accept of the loan you have so generously offered me, a liberality and friendship which, I will cherish in my bosom as long as life last, and bequeath it to my adopted children. It shall be secured in such a way, that life or death nor all the calamities that may befall a nation, or individuals, except earthquakes, cannot deprive you of your principle and interest and should I live, you will receive it with that punctual[ity] that I have always met borrowed money. This loan will enable me to meet all Andrews liabilities and the annual crops will meet this loan, with surety, even at the present low price of cotton, place me at ease, and secure to him and his dear little ones and charming wife, an ample fortune—therefore you see the obligation you lay me and my family under.

You are pleased to say, that you will make the loan, as in your (my) letter detailed, but as I keep no copy of any letter I write you I hope you will have the goodness to send me an extract from that letter, so that I may know how to have the papers made out to embrace it. I recollect that the Interest is to be paid annually, but the instalments I do [not] perfectly recollect, and I wish to include them in the mortgage and personal security I mean to send you, to the perfect understanding of us both. I sincerely thank you for the terms of six percent interest, no such indulgence could be here obtained, and this shows the friendship

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and liberality of the act. I shall have all the papers prepared, ready to be filled up on the receipt of your letter with a power of attorney to Major Lewis to close this business for me, when I will write you fully.

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I am happy to hear that you have such a nice little country seat, and are stocking it. as soon as I can get out and the weather permits me, I will look over my blooded stock, select a filly of good blood, that you may stock your little farm with her produce. We had last year a great mortality among our blooded stock, loosing seven, leaving me but one filly now two years old—if when I examine her, if of sufficient size, I will set her apart for you, if I do not her, altho she is of the first and best crosses in america, I will have then to select a yearling, or send you one of my brood mares.

How we would rejoice to, and have been delighted to have seen Miss Betsy with Mr. Van Buren at the Hermitage, nothing could give us more pleasure, than to see you and Mrs. Blair and Miss Betsy at the Hermitage—we still anticipate that pleasure and hope not to be disappointed.

You are pleased to say, as soon as the appropriation bill is passed that I may draw upon you, or on Blair and Rives, now my dear sir I wish you to say how the bill should be drawn, and it will be so drawn, as it is quite immaterial to me, and the papers shall be made out accordingly.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, with little Rachel who has not forgotten Miss Eliza and Mrs. Blair, all join me in presenting our kind regards